

Village of Sauget

14 NOV
Paul Sauget
Mayor

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Sauget, Illinois 62206

(618) 337-5267

CERTIFIED MAIL

October 27, 1994

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Marsha A. Adams
SHSM-5J
Responsible Party Search Section
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

RECEIVED
NOV 2 1994
SUPERFUND PROGRAM
MANAGEMENT BRANCH

**Re: Response to Request for Information Pursuant
to Section 104(e) of CERCLA for the Sauget Area 1
in Sauget, Illinois**

Dear Ms. Adams:

On behalf of the Village of Sauget, Illinois (the "Village") I am writing to respond to the above-referenced Information Request dated September 21, 1994. At the request of one of its attorneys, Susan M. Franzetti, the Village received an extension of time to October 28, 1994 to respond to these requests from Mr. Tom Martin, Assistant Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA, Region V. The Village has set forth below each of the requests followed by its respective responses thereto.

The Village understood from the Information Request that the requests related to Sauget Area 1 Site as purportedly denoted on the map attached to the Information Request. However, it was not able to identify on the enclosed map the boundaries of Sauget Area 1. The Village's counsel, Susan M. Franzetti of Gardner, Carton & Douglas, contacted Mr. Tom Martin of the U.S. EPA to confirm what areas were included in Sauget Area 1. Ms. Franzetti was informed that your Area 1 was the same as Area 1 as delineated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("IEPA") in its investigation of the Sauget Sites. Accordingly, the Village hereby responds to the Information Request based on its understanding that Sauget Area 1 includes Sites G, H, I, L and Dead Creek Sectors A and B. If this understanding is incorrect, please advise me as the responses may differ if additional areas are included in Sauget Area 1.

The Information Request was somewhat confusing concerning the relevant time period applicable to the requests for information. The September 21, 1994 letter from Mr. Thomas W. Martin of the U.S.EPA stated that the Agency is conducting an investigation of the Sauget Area 1 Site during the time period of 1930 to the present time. However, Request No. 1 stated a time period between 1900 and 1982. Certain other requests did not specify a relevant time period.

Accordingly, unless otherwise specified in the requests, the Village presumed that the relevant time period was 1930 to the present time. However, it should be noted that the Village of Sauget, formerly known as the Village of Monsanto, did not exist until 1926. Accordingly, responsive information concerning the Village does not exist prior to 1926.

- 1. Provide a detailed listing of all companies, both industrial and commercial, whose business addresses were within the boundaries of what is presently known as the Village of Sauget for the time period between 1900 and 1982. Also include approximate dates within which these businesses operated.**

RESPONSE:

We believe that this request for a detailed listing of all companies with a business address within the boundaries of the Village for the time period between 1900 and 1982 goes beyond the scope of the information which the U.S.EPA is authorized to request pursuant to Section 104(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9604(e), particularly given that none of the Sites included in Sauget Area 1 were municipal landfills. Subject to and without waiving this objection, the Village of Sauget provides the following listing of companies:

Company Name	Nature of Business
Darling Fertilizer	Fertilizer manufacturer
Sterling Steel	Steel foundry
Midwest Rubber Company	Manufacturer of rubber tires
Mobil Oil Company (f/k/a Lubrite)	Petroleum refinery company
Union Electric Company	Generation and distribution of electricity
Monsanto Company	Chemical manufacturing company
Clayton Chemical	Chemical/Petroleum Products reclaiming operation
Ethyl Petroleum Additives, Inc. (f/k/a Edwin Cooper Company)	Chemical manufacturing facility
Cerro Copper Products Company, formerly Lewin Mathes Co.	Secondary smelting and refining of non-ferrous metal, copper foundry, rolling, drawing and extruding of copper
Rogers Cartage Company	Truck washing facility
Wiese Engineering Company	
Industrial Salvage & Disposal, Inc.	Salvage and disposal operations
Sauget & Company	Salvage and disposal operations
Jim's Pub	Bar
Julian's Tavern	Food and drink services
G.J. Nooney Co.	Warehouse operations
Big River Zinc Corporation	Metals manufacturing operations
f/k/a Evans-Wallower Zinc Co., (f/k/a American Zinc and f/k/a Amax Zinc)	

Illinois Central Gulf Railroad	Railroad operations
Alton & Southern Railroad	Railroad operations
Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis	Railroad terminal operations
Missouri Pacific Railroad	Railroad operations
Rt. 3 Liquors	Sale of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages and food products
FKG Oil Company, d/b/a Moto Gas	Gasoline service station and package liquor sales
National Sports & Recreation, Inc.	Operates a discotheque and bar known as "The Oz"
Mississippi Avenue, Inc.	Operates a restaurant and bar known as "Pops Saloon"
Con Ag, f/k/a Pillsbury	Operates a bulk grain, coal and fertilizer loading operation
Kerr-McGee, f/k/a Moss Tie	Manufacturer of railroad ties

The Village does not have specific information concerning the years of operation of the above companies. However, these companies were operating or had business addresses within the Village limits at various respective times during the period from 1926 through 1982. The Village believes that the St. Clair County Government may have taxpayer records which could provide more specific information concerning their dates of operation within the 1926 through 1982 time period.

2. **Concerning the above, please provide a description of the nature of business that these companies performed during the above time period**

RESPONSE:

See response to Request No. 1.

3. **Provide a detailed listing of all services that both the Village of Monsanto and the Village of Sauget (hereinafter, "Village") provided to the companies referenced in response to Request #2 during the above-referenced time period.**

RESPONSE:

The Village of Sauget objects to this request for a detailed listing of all services provided by the Village because it believes that it seeks information beyond the scope of the Agency's authority pursuant to Section 104(e) of CERCLA. Subject to and without waiving this objection, the Village responds that it has at times provided the following services to the companies set forth in response to Request Nos. 1 and 2 during the referenced time period: Fire; Police;

Sewerage since the 1930's; Wastewater treatment since the 1960's; Parks; and Recreational Services.

- 4. Did the Village keep records of or in any way monitor the quantities of chemical waste (organic and inorganic) materials that were generated within the Village during the above-referenced time period? Was the Village in any way informed of or familiar with the types of chemical wastes that were generated in the Village? If so, what specific types of organic or inorganic wastes were generated during the above time period?**

RESPONSE:

With respect to the term "chemical waste (organic and inorganic) materials", this term is not among the defined terms contained within the Information Request. For purposes of responding to this request, the Village has assumed that this term would include wastewater discharged to the Village's Physical/Chemical Wastewater Treatment Plant (the "P-Chem Plant"). Accordingly, the Village responds that it did keep records concerning wastewater monitoring for the P-Chem Plant beginning in approximately May, 1977. To the extent that this request covers the time period to the present, rather than ending in 1982, the Village does have monitoring records of industrial discharges to the P-Chem Plant as well as to the American Bottoms Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility during this time period. To the extent the term "chemical waste" refers to solid waste containing any constituent which may be deemed a "hazardous substance", as that term is defined in CERCLA, the Village did not keep records of or in any way monitor the quantities of such waste that were generated within the Village during the 1926 to 1982 time period, nor continuing thereafter to the present. Other than through the monitoring of wastewater discharges, the Village was not informed of or familiar with the types of chemical wastes generated in the Village. The Village does have general knowledge that certain companies operating within the Village are involved in the manufacturing of chemicals, such as the Monsanto Company and Ethyl Petroleum Additives, Inc., and would have generated chemical wastes.

- 5. Were any chemical waste materials disposed of on any property owned by the Village? Were these disposal activities performed with the Village's consent or under agreement with the Village? If so, provide copies of all contracts or agreements to this effect.**

RESPONSE:

Based on our knowledge, information and belief, and based on our understanding of the term "chemical waste materials" as set forth in Response to Request No. 4, such materials were not disposed of on any property owned by the Village within Sauget Site Area 1.

- 6. Have any employees of the Village at any time permitted, regulated, or coordinated chemical waste disposal activities of companies located in the Village? If so, please describe the nature of these activities, the employees involved, and provide documents relating thereto.**

RESPONSE:

Based on our understanding of the term "chemical waste" as set forth in our Response to Request No. 4, employees of the Village, which we interpret to include their actions in their role as Village employees, did not at any time, permit, regulate or coordinate chemical waste disposal activities of companies located in the Village other than through the operation of the P-Chem Plant which the Village causes to be operated under a contract with the Sauget Sanitary Development & Research Association.

- 7. Were the chemical waste disposal services of Leo Sauget, or his company, later named "Industrial Salvage & Disposal, Inc.," (with particular regard to disposal of wastes into Sites G, H and/or I), performed as actions that were sanctioned, licensed or permitted by the Village? Were the waste disposal services of Paul Sauget or Sauget & Company, particular regard to disposal of wastes into Sites G, H, and/or I, sanctioned or permitted by the Village?**

RESPONSE:

Based on our understanding of the term "chemical waste" as set forth in our Response to Request No. 4, the Village did not engage in any of the actions described in this request.

- 8. How were process wastewater and sanitary discharges of industries located within Village boundaries regulated prior to the construction of the Village's sewer system?**

RESPONSE:

Based on information and belief, since the incorporation of the Village in 1926, and prior to the construction of the Village's sewer system, which was in the early 1930's, the Village did not regulate process wastewater and sanitary discharges of industries located within Village boundaries.

- 9. Was it a practice of industries in the Village to discharge liquid chemical wastes into Dead Creek prior to the construction of the Village's sewer system? If so, provide all information and documents concerning this practice.**

RESPONSE:

Based on our understanding of the term "chemical waste" as set forth in our Response to Request No. 4, and based on our information and belief, it may have been a practice of certain industries in the Village to discharge liquid chemical wastes into Dead Creek prior to the construction of the Village's sewer system. The Village does not have any documents concerning this practice. The Village also does not have any specific knowledge concerning these practices. The Sauget sewer system was put in many years ago, and in fact the current Mayor of the Village was a young child at that time. Our general information that Dead Creek was used by certain industries for the discharge of liquid chemical wastes is based on general, hearsay information that such practices were engaged in.

- 10. Did the Village regulate these discharges and if so, how? Have any sanitary or process wastewaters been discharged to Dead Creek after the construction of the Village's sewer system? If so, provide all information and documents concerning these discharges.**

RESPONSE:

To the best of the Village's knowledge, information and belief, the Village did not regulate these discharges and no sanitary or process wastewaters were discharged to Dead Creek after the construction of the Village's sewer system, except perhaps by overflows from the Village sewer system during wet weather periods (storm events).

- 11. In lawsuit captioned Cerro Copper Products v. Monsanto Chemical Company, Docket No. 92-CV-204-WDS, Cerro alleges that periodic discharges from the Village sewer system into Dead Creek occurred at the northern portion of Dead Creek Segment A. Cerro also alleges that Dead Creek Segment A was used as a retention basin for the sewer system under certain conditions. Does the Village disagree with these contentions? If not, under what conditions did these discharges occur?**

RESPONSE:

The Village is unable to respond to this Request because we are not a party to nor participating in the referenced lawsuit. The Village would need more specific information concerning the alleged contentions and the factual basis thereof before being able to determine whether or not the Village agrees or disagrees with them. Based on the information contained in the Request, the Village does not know whether or not it agrees or disagrees.

- 12. Did the Village alter the flow of Dead Creek Segment A in any way so that wastewater generated by Village industries would gravity flow back into the Village sewer system? If so, describe these measures.**

RESPONSE:

The Village did alter the flow of Dead Creek Segment A sometime in the 1950's so as to prevent any flow of Dead Creek Segment A south of Queeny Avenue. These measures involved dredging Dead Creek Segment A to alter the flow.

- 13. Did the Village take measures to keep Dead Creek Segment A retention basin clear of silt? If so, describe these measures.**

RESPONSE:

The Village submits that it is not accurate to refer to Dead Creek Segment A as a "retention basin". Subject to that correction, with respect to Dead Creek Segment A, the Village did not take measures to keep it clear of silt.

- 14. Does the Village have knowledge as to whether Segment A of Dead Creek was ever dredged? If so, what was the location of this dredging activity and how as the dredged material disposed of? Was the Village involved in these actions?**

RESPONSE:

The Village does have knowledge as to whether Segment A of Dead Creek was ever dredged. The location of the dredging activity was from Queeny Avenue north to the Alton & Southern Railroad. The dredged material was placed on the banks of Dead Creek Segment A. The dredging work was done at the direction of the Village but was performed by A.R. Hursey Co., a contractor hired by the Village to perform the work.

- 15. Provide any information/documents regarding the waste disposal activities of Harold Waggoner or Waggoner & Company, in Sauget Area 1.**

RESPONSE:

The Village does not have any information or documents regarding the waste disposal activities of Harold Waggoner or Waggoner & Company in Sauget Area 1. The Village does know generally that this entity operated in the area of Dead Creek south of Queeny Avenue, which is outside of the Village limits.

- 16. Provide all information/documents in your possession concerning:**
- (a) Possible potential responsible parties for Sauget Area 1 landfill sites;**
 - (b) Trucking firms involved in dumping wastes into Sauget Area 1 sites;**
 - (c) All test and sampling analytical reports concerning the soil, air, or water, or groundwater in and around Sauget Area 1.**

RESPONSE:

- (a)** The Village lacks knowledge concerning what entities or persons would be deemed "possible potentially responsible parties for Sauget Area 1 landfill sites." The Village does not believe it has any such information or documents but would need more clarification of the nature of the information sought by this Request in order to confirm its belief that it does not have responsive information or documents. In addition, the Village directs the Agency to its responses to these Information Requests which may provide responsive information to this Request.
 - (b)** The Village does not have any information or documents concerning trucking firms involved in dumping wastes into Sauget Area 1 Sites.
 - (c)** The Village does not have any such information or documents other than documents which have been received from the State of Illinois concerning its investigation of Sauget Area 1, including for example the Ecology & Environment two (2) volume report on the Sauget Sites.
- 17. Were any Village permits granted for the initial excavation of the gravel pits that now comprise Site G, Site H and Site I? Provide any information as to when these excavations were completed. Has the Village been involved in the practice of covering these sites for the purposes of making property improvements? If so, describe this practice.**

RESPONSE:

The Village did not grant any permits for excavation activities on Sites G, H and I. The Village does not have any information as to when these excavations were completed. The Village has not been involved in any covering of these sites for the purposes of making property improvements.

- 18. Provide the name of Village employees, including firemen and policemen, who would be familiar with the dumping of wastes into Sauget Area 1 and/or the disposal practice and activities of Harold Waggoner and Waggoner Trucking Company. Provide information on where and how these individuals can be contacted.**

RESPONSE:

With respect to the dumping of wastes into Sauget Area 1 Sites, Mayor Paul Sauget has some general knowledge on this topic. No other current Village employees would be familiar with these activities as their employment by the Village was subsequent to these dumping activities, and in many cases, they were not even alive at the time these activities would have occurred. With respect to former Village employees, the following former employees may be familiar with these matters: (1) retired Village Fire Chief Marvin Ogden -- we believe he still resides within the Village; (2) former Village Chief of Police Charles B. White, Jr.-- we believe he resides in Cahokia, Illinois; (3) former fireman Ollie Reeves -- we believe he resides in Sauget, Illinois; (4) former policeman J.C. McDaniel -- we believe he resides in Sauget, Illinois; (5) former Members of the Village of Sauget Board of Trustees, R. Lane, R. Horten and Joe Hawkins -- we believe they reside in St. Clair County, Illinois. Our investigation continues as to other former employees who may be familiar with these matters.

- 19. Provide any information/documents concerning the blockages of Dead Creek at Judith Lane in Cahokia and Queeny Avenue in Sauget.**

RESPONSE:

Based on information and belief, the Village believes that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency was involved in the blocking of Dead Creek at Judith Lane but the Village has not found any documents responsive to this request. With respect to the blockage of Dead Creek at Queeny Avenue in Sauget, the Village directed the blockage of Dead Creek at Queeny Avenue in about 1970 or 1971 by placing sandbags at that location to stop the flow. Approximately a year or so later, this area was then filled in with concrete. The Village used the services of Keely Bros. Contracting Co. to perform the concrete work. The Village may have invoices from Keeley Bros. Contracting Co. in connection with these services but such invoices have not yet been found.

- 20. Provide any information/documents about fires occurring in Sauget Area 1, particularly at Site G in Sauget Area 1. How often has this area caught fire? What is the Sauget Fire Department's response procedure to this type of fire?**

RESPONSE:

The Village maintains daily reports on fires which have occurred within the Village limits for the period from approximately the late 1970's to the early 1980's. The Village also sends a monthly report on any such fires to the State of Illinois. However, none of these records are organized by a specific area of property involved. Instead, they are simply kept chronologically. It would be extremely burdensome to go through all of these records and attempt to identify properties that are deemed to be included in Site G in Sauget Area 1. The Village is willing to make these records available to the Agency for its review and determination as to which such records would be responsive to this Request. However, based on the general recollection of the current Village of Sauget Fire Chief, Roger Thornton, the Village does not recall any fires occurring at Sites H and I in the past eight (8) years. With respect to Site G, and again based on the recollection of the Village's current Fire Chief, the Village believes that no more than approximately ten (10) fires have occurred over the past 8 years. The Village's Fire Department's response procedures to these fires is to utilize full gear and protective clothing, to stay out of the wind direction, and to only use water in addressing these fires.

- 21. Describe the extent, cause, and severity of the fires which occurred on Site G in March/April and June and what measures were taken to:**
- (a) Stop the fire;**
 - (b) Ensure that any water used to stop the fire did not become contaminated with wastes located on the site and subsequently run off into Dead Creek;**
 - (c) Prevent the reoccurrence of fires on the Site.**


RESPONSE:

The Village is unable to fully respond to this Request because there is no year provided for the fires which are the subject of this Request. However, for purposes of this Response, the Village has assumed that the year in question is 1994. We have attached to this Request copies of the Village Fire Department's daily reports during the months of March and June, 1994 regarding fires which we believe occurred within the limits of Site G. These documents contain a description of the fires and the type of action taken to stop the water.

- (a) The attached Village Fire Department Reports contain a description of the type of action taken to stop the fire. In each case, the type of action taken was extinguishment of the fire through the use of fire.
- (b) In each instance, the Village Fire Department only used enough water to extinguish the fire itself. Village Fire Department employees did not see any water running away from the area of the fire to Dead Creek at any time during any of the efforts to extinguish the subject fires.
- (c) The Village is not authorized to take fire prevention measures on Site G because it is part of a State Superfund site and the Village is not authorized to perform any work on this Superfund Site.

The responses to Request Nos. 1 through 19 were prepared with the assistance of information contributed by Mayor Paul Sauget, Village Clerk Betty Long Wilson, and Village Attorney Harold G. Baker, Jr. With respect to Request Nos. 1 and 2, some of the information was obtained through review of the Village's liquor license files. With respect to Requests 19 and 20, Village Fire Chief Roger Thornton was a contributing source of information.

Very truly yours,



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encl.